

# Rhode Island is Turning Green... One School at a Time

## Ocean State Emerges as a National Leader on Climate-Friendly Education

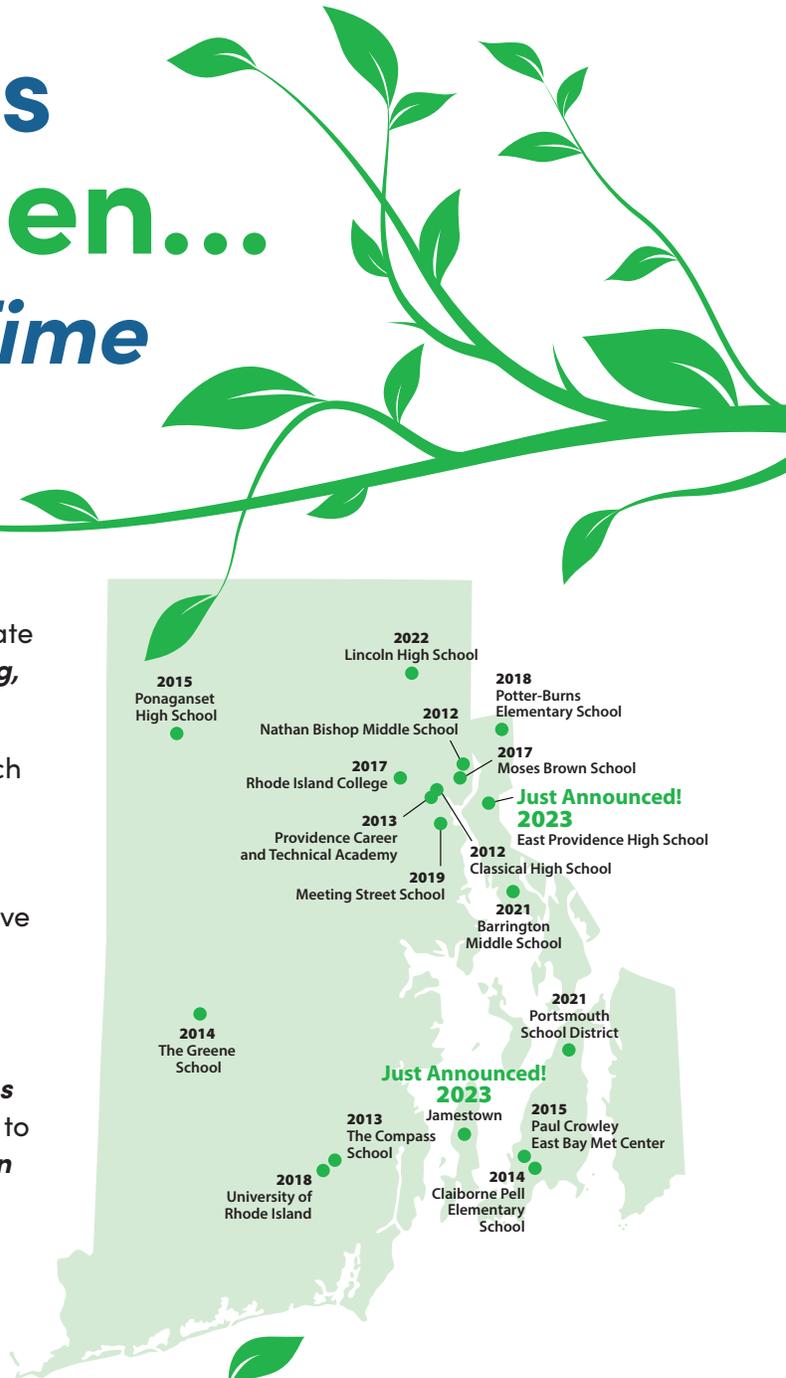
Schools that are energy-efficient and integrate climate impacts into the classroom setting **improve learning, boost student health** and **save taxpayer money**.

Since 2007, Rhode Island has taken a two-fold approach to ensure our PreK-12 students learn in schools that are safe, clean and (increasingly) environment-friendly: regulations that ensure uniformity and equity in school construction and compliance with Northeast Collaborative for High Performance Schools Protocol (NECHPS) requirements to ensure projects are built green.

- As a result, Rhode Island public schools built or renovated over the last 15 years **use at least 30% less energy and 20% less water** than buildings designed to code and have **diverted at least 50% of construction waste** from landfills.
- Each year, more Rhode Island schools earn the **Green Ribbon School** award from the U.S. Department of Education. The competitive program honors schools, districts and postsecondary institutions that stand out in their efforts to **reduce environmental impact and costs; improve the health and wellness of students and staff; and provide effective sustainability education**.

## WE'RE NUMBER ONE!

R.I. is in the **top spot** for Green Ribbon schools in the Northeast (and we hold the second spot nationwide).



## PUT YOUR SCHOOL ON THE MAP!

Contact RIDE at  
[Mario.Carreno@ride.ri.gov](mailto:Mario.Carreno@ride.ri.gov)  
to apply for your Green  
Ribbon in 2024.



**RIDE** Rhode Island  
Department  
of Education

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